



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

June 7, 2005

News Release

ICE DEPORTS SALVADORAN MAN CONVICTED OF ATTEMPTED RAPE OF 12- YEAR-OLD GIRL

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. – A man convicted of second degree attempted rape of a 12-year-old girl was deported to El Salvador Friday by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers.

On December 22, 2003, Jose Anibal Pena-Echevarria, then 22, was arrested by local law enforcement and charged with rape after having sexual intercourse with a 12-year-old girl. On May 24, 2004 he plead guilty to attempted rape in the 2nd degree and was sentenced to 10 years probation. He was also registered as a level-one sex offender.



On March 29, 2005, ICE agents arrested Pena-Echevarria on immigration charges in Nassau County, NY, as part of Operation Predator. He was subsequently detained in Pike County, Pa. Pena-Echevarria originally entered the country illegally along the Arizona/Mexico border in July 1998.

ICE Detention and Removal officers escorted Pena-Echevarria back to El Salvador via a Justice Prisoner and Alien Transportation System (JPATS) flight after a judge ordered him removed from the United States on April 15.

Pena's removal from the United States is part of ICE's Operation Predator, a comprehensive initiative designed to protect young people from alien smugglers, human traffickers, child pornographers and other predatory criminals.

Operation Predator draws on the full spectrum of intelligence, investigative, cyber and detention and removal functions of ICE to target those who exploit children. Since Operation Predator was launched in July 2003, ICE agents have arrested more than 5,700 child sex predators nationwide.

ICE encourages the reporting of suspected child predators and any suspicious activity through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-DHS-2ICE. Investigators staff this hotline around the clock. Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, an [Operation Predator](#) partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or <http://www.cybertipline.com>.

#ICE#

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities